NEW AVENGERS

CAPTAIN AMERICA

SPIDER-MAN

MS. MARVEL

SPIDER-WOMAN

WOLVERINE

LUKE CAGE

RONIN

MOCKINGBIRD

IRON FIST

DARK AVENGERS

IRON PATRIOT

SPIDER-MAN

HAWKEYE

MS. MARVEL

WOLVERINE

ARES

CAPTAIN MARVEL

SENTRY

And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

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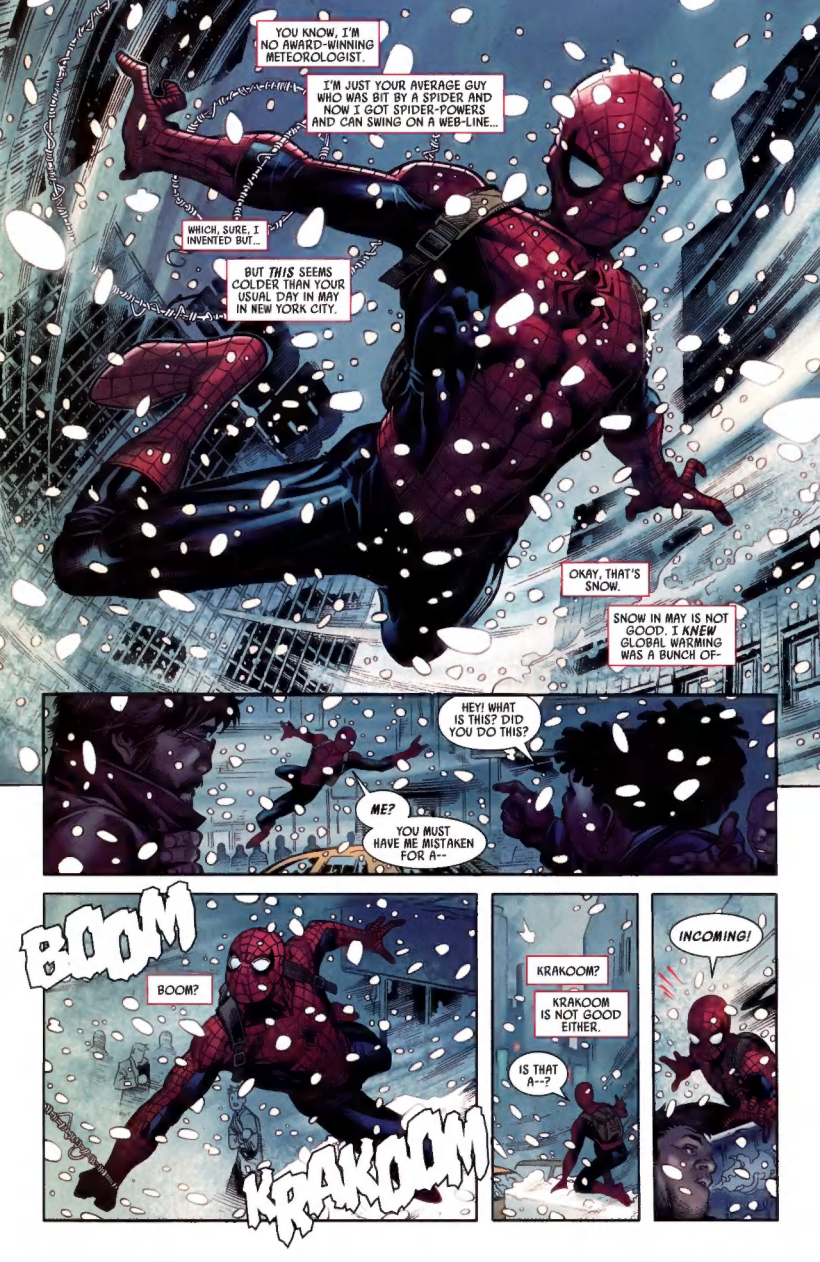
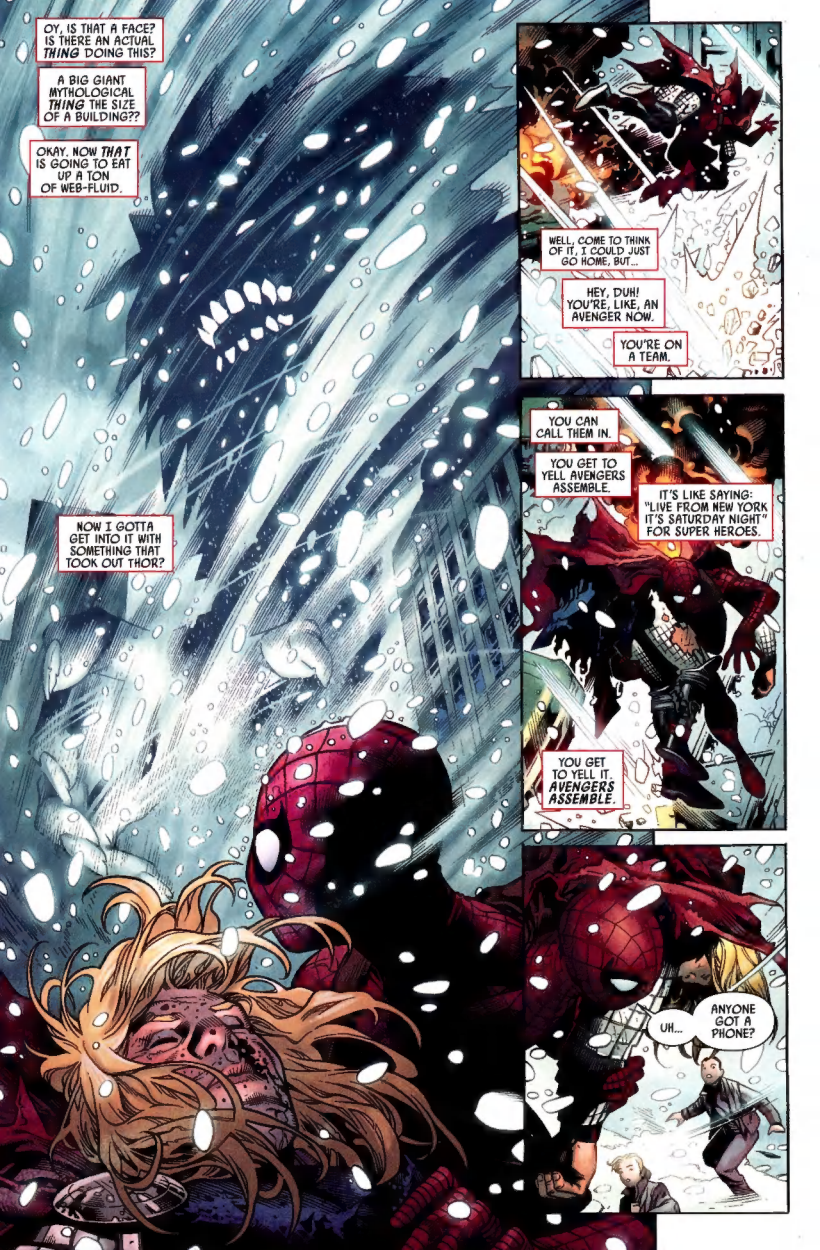
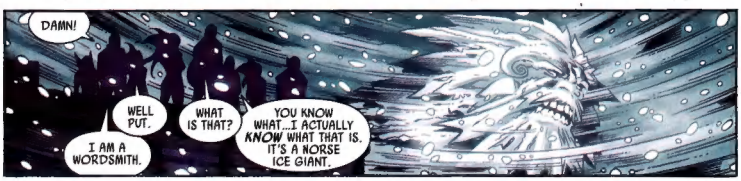

YOU KNOW, I'M NO AWARD-WINNING METEOROLOGIST.
I'M JUST YOUR AVERAGE GUY WHO WAS BIT BY A SPIDER AND NOW I GOT SPIDER-POWERS AND CAN SWING ON A WEB-LINE...
WHICH, SURE, I INVENTED BUT...
BUT *THIS* SEEMS COLDER THAN YOUR USUAL DAY IN MAY IN NEW YORK CITY.
OKAY, THAT'S SNOW.
SNOW IN MAY IS NOT GOOD. I *KNEW* GLOBAL WARMING WAS A BUNCH OF-
HEY! WHAT IS THIS? DID YOU DO THIS?
ME?
YOU MUST HAVE ME MISTAKEN FOR A--
BOOM
BOOM?
KRAKOOM
KRAKOOM?
KRAKOOM IS NOT GOOD EITHER.
IS THAT A--?
INCOMING!

THOR.
UH, THOR, HI, UH, IT'S ME.
SPIDER-MAN, WE'VE HAD A COUPLE TEAMS-UPS.
BIG FAN.
UH, YOU OK?
HOLY MACAROLI. THOR. GOD OF THUNDER. THE ACTUAL GOD OF THUNDER, DOWN FOR THE COUNT.
HIS MIGHT IS GREATER THAN I HAVE EVER KNOWN.
WHAT ON EARTH COULD KNOCK THOR ON HIS HOLY ASGARDIAN TUSHY?
HE CAME BACK TO THE EARTH WITH POWER THIS THUNDER GOD COULD NOT BEST.
I'M SURE YOU'RE JUST BEING MODEST...
OH, MAN...


OY, IS THAT A FACE? IS THERE AN ACTUAL *THING* DOING THIS?
A BIG GIANT MYTHOLOGICAL *THING* THE SIZE OF A BUILDING??
OKAY. NOW *THAT* IS GOING TO EAT UP A TON OF WEB-FLUID.
NOW I GOTTA GET INTO IT WITH SOMETHING THAT TOOK OUT THOR?
WELL, COME TO THINK OF IT, I COULD JUST GO HOME, BUT...
HEY, DUH! YOU'RE, LIKE, AN AVENGER NOW.
YOU'RE ON A TEAM.
YOU CAN CALL THEM IN.
YOU GET TO YELL AVENGERS ASSEMBLE.
IT'S LIKE SAYING: "LIVE FROM NEW YORK IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT" FOR SUPER HEROES.
YOU GET TO YELL IT. *AVENGERS ASSEMBLE.*
UH...
ANYONE GOT A PHONE?

THE AVENGERS
in "THE WAY THINGS ARE..."


DAMN!
WELL PUT.
I AM A WORDSMITH.
WHAT IS THAT?
YOU KNOW WHAT...I ACTUALLY *KNOW* WHAT THAT IS. IT'S A NORSE ICE GIANT.

BACK IN MY DAYS AS HAWKEYE, THE AVENGERS *FOUGHT* THAT THING.
GREAT, OKAY, JUST TELL US HOW YOU BEAT IT THE FIRST TIME AND WE'LL--
WELL, UH, A BIG GIANT FIRE GOD CAME AND THEY BEAT EACH OTHER OUT OF THIS DIMENSION.
DO YOU *KNOW* ANY GIANT FIRE GODS?
I DO NOT.
SO NOTHING YOU SAID HELPS US AT ALL.

OKAY GUYS...
WE GOT TO HIT THE STREET AND START PULLING PEOPLE OUT OF THIS.
WHERE'S WEBS?
THERE.

YO YO.

IS THAT THING AFTER THOR?
YA THINK??!!
HAND HIM OVER, I'LL FLY HIM OUT OF HERE!!

GOOD, MS. MARVEL CAN GET THOR TO JERSEY BEFORE THIS THING EVEN KNOWS WHO'S WHAT AND WHERE.
HEY, THANKS FOR CALLING US FOR THIS. REALLY.
I KNOW HOW YOU GUYS LIKE BIG GIANT ELEMENTAL MONSTERS.

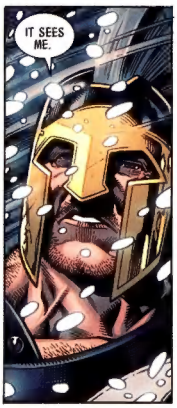
THE REAL QUESTION IS, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
HEY, CAGE. HOW'S YOUR THROWING ARM?

THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
OLDIE BUT GOODIE.
FASTBALL SPECIAL.
CHUNK
OKAY. EFFECTIVE, SURE.
HHURRAAAGGHHH!!
HO!
YEAH, UH, I THINK THIS MIGHT BE A LITTLE OUT OF OUR LEAGUE.
WELL, WE CAN'T JUST DO NOTHING.
HATE TO TELL YOU, THAT'S ABOUT ALL WE ARE DOING.
UH-OH.
NOW WE HAVE A SUPER CHEESED OFF GOD OF SLEET, AND WOLVERINE DIDN'T COME OUT THE OTHER SIDE!
I, UH, I THINK HE SEES US.
GET READY TO SPREAD OUT!!
SKOOSH

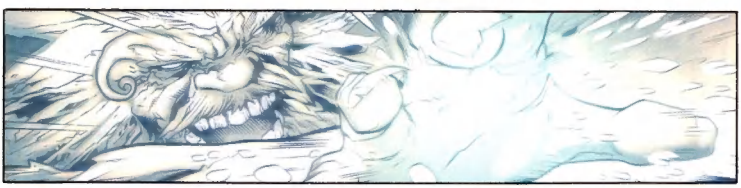
WHOA!
THE SENTRY.
THE GUY WITH THE POWER OF A MILLION EXPLODING SUNS.
OR A THOUSAND EXPLODING SUNS. A THOUSAND, A MILLION...
WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S A LOT OF EXPLODING SUNS.
WHOA.
I KNOW, RIGHT?
BUT IF THE SENTRY IS HERE...
...THE AVENGERS CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND.
BUT, YOU'RE SAYING TO YOURSELF, SPIDEY, I THOUGHT YOUR TEAM WAS THE AVENGERS??
WELL, WE ARE. WE ARE!
BUT THIS TEAM. THIS IS A WHOLE 'NUTHER STORY. THESE GUYS--GET THIS--THESE GUYS ARE A TEAM OF FULLY SANCTIONED GOVERNMENT SUPER HEROES.
BUT WE IN THE KNOW, KNOW THEY'RE NOT.
MOST OF THEM ARE CRIMINALS. BAD CRIMINALS. LIKE, THE WORST.
THE GUY IN THE ARMOR? THAT'S NORMAN OSBORN. NORMAN OSBORN! THAT NAME RING A BELL? IT SHOULD...HE'S ONLY THE GREEN GOBLIN!!
WE'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE.
AND YOU'RE VERY MUCH UNDER ARREST. ALL OF YOU.
BUT FOR SOME REASON HE'S NOW, LIKE, THE MOST POPULAR MAN IN THE WORLD.
AND HE WENT AND PUT TOGETHER A TEAM OF QUOTE UNQUOTE BADASS AVENGERS.
THAT SPIDER-MAN OVER THERE...THAT'S ACTUALLY VENOM. UH-HUH.
AND THAT GUY DRESSED AS HAWKEYE? THAT'S THE ASSASSIN BULLSEYE. YEAH!! RIGHT?
AND THAT MS. MARVEL-- SHE USED TO BE MOONSTONE.
AND THAT'S NOT WOLVERINE. THAT'S WOLVERINE'S KID.
AND I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW UNTIL THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY THAT WOLVERINE EVER HAD A KID!
LET ALONE A KID SO MAD AT HIS DAD THAT HE WOULD PULL SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
OH, AND THAT'S CAPTAIN MARVEL. ALIEN.
SEEMED LIKE A DECENT ENOUGH LUNATIC UNTIL HE JOINED UP WITH OSBORN.
AND THAT'S ARES. GOD OF WAR.
YEP. THE REAL ONE. HE'S ALL KINDS OF CRAZY BUT IN A GOD OF WAR KIND OF WAY.
AND NOW THAT I--UH-OH.

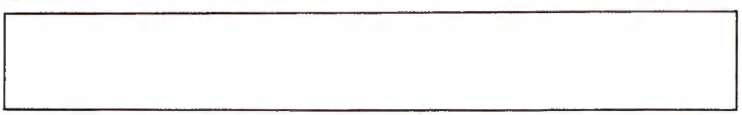
HERE WE GO...
OH, WHY DON'T YOU BLOW IT OUT YOUR GREEN AND GOBLINY--
QUIET, ALL OF YOU!!
WE ARE ALL IN GRAVE DANGER. THAT IS THE FROST GIANT YMIR OF THE NORTH WINDS.
TOLD YOU.
YEAH, WE KINDA KNEW THAT. WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT?
IF SUCH A LEGENDARY ELEMENTAL FORCE IS HERE, I FEAR ON THIS MORTAL PLANE THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO.
HEY, I LIKED THE PART WHERE BLONDIE BLEW HIS HEAD OFF. LET'S DO THAT AGAIN.
IT HAS NO HEAD. IT IS AN ELEMENTAL FORCE.
IT HAS A HEAD. I SEE IT.
IF WE DO ENGAGE IT...
YOU WILL FAIL.

WELL, WE CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING!!
I COULD.
AM I NUTS OR IS IT STARING AT US?


IT SEES ME.

GOOD. MAYBE IT'LL KNOW IT'S TIME TO PACK UP.
NO...I THINK IT KNOWS I AM AN ALLY OF THE MIGHTY THOR.

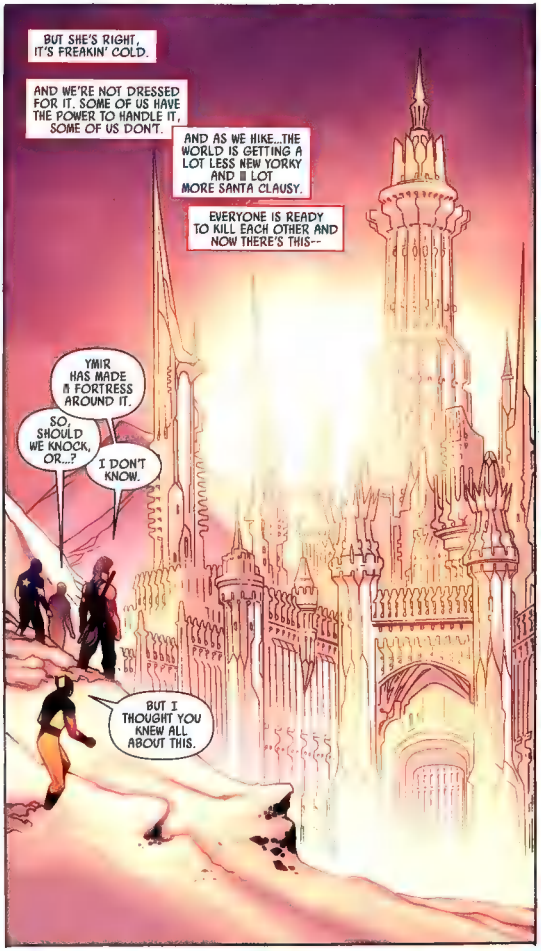




HYYAARR@@HH!!
SEE, I TOLD YOU!
NO ONE KNOWS WHAT'S GOING ON HERE AND WHAT DO THEY DO?
GIVE THEM ANY OPENING AND IT'S A ONE WAY TICKET TO CRAZYTOWN.
CRACK
LUNATICS! ALL OF 'EM.
AND MY GUYS, THEY AIN'T EXACTLY ABOUT TO SIT AND TAKE IT.
WORST AVENGERS SNOWBALL FIGHT EVER.
STOP IT!!

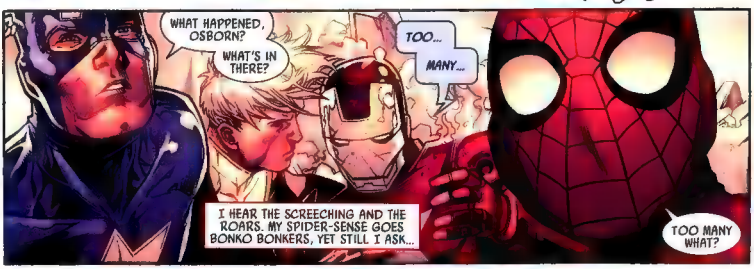
THE SWORD CAN STOP THIS.
IT'S A MAGNIFICENT WEAPON OF IMMORTAL DESTINY.
IF YMIR THINKS IT CAN ACTUALLY TAKE THE MORTAL PLANE AS ITS OWN... IT MUST POSSESS THE SWORD.
IN THE PAST, THOR AND HIS FATHER ODIN HAD [redacted] ABLE TO HOLD BACK SUCH MADNESS WITH JUST THE THREAT OF IT.
AND WHERE WOULD WE FIND THIS--?
THIS WAY.
THE TWILIGHT SWORD...
OK...
HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS?
I'M THE GOD OF WAR, SON OF ZEUS...
YOUR UNDERESTIMATION OF ME IS YOUR OWN MORTAL FOIBLE.
HE TOLD YOU.
HE TOLD YOU.
SENTRY, MS. MARVEL. UP AND AWAY WITH ME.
WE'LL DO SOME AERIAL RECON... SEE WHERE HE'S GOING.
BUT LISTEN AND LISTEN GOOD...
ALL OF YOU... WE DO THIS.
ANY OF YOU, AND I MEAN ANY OF YOU LAY HANDS ON EACH OTHER, I WILL EXECUTE YOU.
I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DO IT, AND I WILL... SO DON'T PUSH THE ISSUE.
WELL, THIS ISN'T TOO AWKWARD.
YES, IT IS.
I KNOW.
I WAS BEING... WOW.
IS IT UN-AVENGER-Y OF ME IF I WHINE ABOUT HOW COLD I AM.
YES.
YES.
LI'L BIT.
SHUT IT AND WALK.
YES.

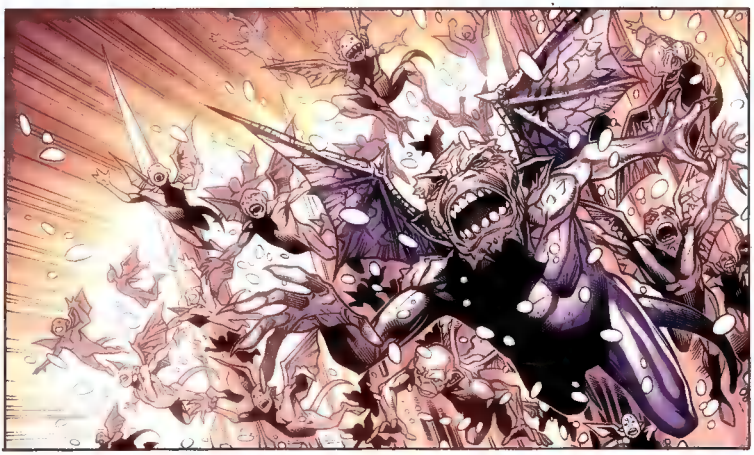
THE NEW MUTANTS
70 YEARS
MARVEL COMICS
THE ORIGINAL TEAM REUNITES
IN A NEW ONGOING SERIES!
MAY
2009


BUT SHE'S RIGHT, IT'S FREAKIN' COLD.
AND WE'RE NOT DRESSED FOR IT. SOME OF US HAVE THE POWER TO HANDLE IT, SOME OF US DON'T.
AND AS WE HIKE...THE WORLD IS GETTING A LOT LESS NEW YORKY AND A LOT MORE SANTA CLAUSY.
EVERYONE IS READY TO KILL EACH OTHER AND NOW THERE'S THIS--
YMIR HAS MADE A FORTRESS AROUND IT.
SO, SHOULD WE KNOCK, OR...?
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT I THOUGHT YOU KNEW ALL ABOUT THIS.

THIS IS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE.
WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE?
THINGS ARE WRONG.
YEAH? NO KIDDING.
WHAT ABOUT THE AERIAL RECON TEAM?
YEAH, WHERE'S OSBORN? AND THE SENTRY AND MS. MARVEL?

RUMBLE


WHAT HAPPENED, OSBORN?
WHAT'S IN THERE?
TOO...
MANY...
I HEAR THE SCREECHING AND THE ROARS. MY SPIDER-SENSE GOES BONKO BONKERS, YET STILL I ASK...
TOO MANY WHAT?



I'M GOING IN!!
COVER ME!!

COVER HIM!
I SHOULD COVER HIM?
GO!

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
THERE.
THE TWILIGHT SWORD.
WHAT DOES IT DO?
I TOLD YOU--IT CAN STOP THIS MADNESS.
HOW?
I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE WITH MY OWN EYES. IT IS TRULY MAGNIFICENT.
I DON'T GET IT--IF THAT CAN STOP ALL A'THIS, THEN WHY DON'T THEY TAKE IT AND BREAK IT OVER THEIR KNEE SO GUYS LIKE US DON'T COME RUNNING IN HERE--
IT CANNOT BE DESTROYED.
IT IS A WEAPON FORGED BY THE GOD OF GODS.
THE BEST YMIR CAN DO IS KEEP IT FROM SOMEONE LIKE MYSELF OR THOR.
AND KEEP IT FROM US UNTIL HE HAS OVERTAKEN YOUR WORLD AS HIS KINGDOM.
AFTER THAT, WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO EVEN GET THIS CLOSE WITHOUT--
I'LL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT, I DON'T KNOW A DIGGITY DAMN ABOUT ALL THIS GOD STUFF.
SO, OKAY, LET'S GRAB IT AND SHOVE IT UP HIS--
NO.
NO MORTAL SHALL TOUCH IT.
OH.
BUT WHEN A GOD OF WAR IS ALL SWEATY NERVOUS ABOUT SOMETHING, IT MAKES ME [illegible] SWEATY NERVOUS.
BUT THAT'S THE THING WITH THIS ARES GUY. ONE MINUTE HE'S ALL DEEP IN THOUGHT, AND THE NEXT...

HE'S ALL...
KTANG
KTANG
COVER ME, OSBORN.
BRING HELL DOWN UPON THEM.
KTANG
BOB, DON'T HOLD BACK.
GOT IT.
AAGGH!!!
HEADS UP.
SMASH
DONE.
THIS IS WHAT IT MUST FEEL LIKE--
AWWW, SWEET--
THIS IS WHAT THE END OF THE WORLD HAS GOTTA BE--
HUURRAAGGHHH!!!
KTANG

UH...
DID WE WIN?
WELL DONE, ARES. I HAVE CLEAR READINGS ACROSS THE NORTHERN SEABOARD.
H.A.M.M.E.R., COME IN. THIS IS OSBORN.
THIS IS H.A.M.M.E.R., WE READ YOU NOW. YOU WERE OFF GRID.
I WAS. WE'RE GOOD NOW.
CASUALTIES?
HOLD ON, WE'RE NOT DONE YET.
WELL DONE, EVERYONE. YOUR COOPERATION HERE TODAY WILL BE DULY ACKNOWLEDGED DURING YOUR MILITARY HEARINGS.
BUT YOU ARE UNDER ARREST FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER WITH THE SUPER-POWERS INFORMATION ACT.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
WE JUST HELPED YOU.
HEY, HE WANTS TO THROW DOWN, WE THROW DOWN. I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR HIS.
LET'S GO. YOU READY BACK THERE, KID?
I'M SO READY.
HOLD STEADY.
YOU, ALL OF YOU, HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT...
NO ONE MOVE!

NO ONE.
LORD ARES, THE SWORD CANNOT BE IN THIS DIMENSION.
I KNOW, LORD THOR. I DIDN'T KNOW IT COULD EVEN TRAVEL HERE.
I'LL TAKE IT BACK TO ASGARD WHENCE IT CAME.
PLEASE.
OSBORN, YOU AND EVERYONE ELSE HERE WILL LEAVE THIS BATTLE A VICTOR. AND YOU WILL LEAVE IT NOW.
ALL DUE RESPECT, THOR, BUT THIS IS ABSOLUTELY NONE OF YOUR CONCERN.
DO YOU WISH TO DO BATTLE WITH ME TODAY? RIGHT HERE?!
NO, I WISH TO RUN MY TEAM THE WAY I--
THEN YOU WILL LEAVE HERE.
YOU AND I SHALL HAVE WORDS ANOTHER DAY...IT IS COMPLETELY UP TO YOU HOW THAT MIGHT GO.

ALL RIGHT, AVENGERS... HEAD HOME.
TODAY'S NOT THE DAY.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
OSBORN!
LORD THOR HAS SPOKEN.
CLEARLY.
WHAT?
NO HUG?
DON'T PUSH THE ISSUE.
CAP WAS RIGHT.
I'M BEING MY USUAL SILLY SELF, BUT THIS WAS A CLOSE ONE. A DAMN CLOSE ONE.
AND WE ALL KNOW THE CLOCK IS TICKING ON WHEN WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO STAND OUR GROUND AGAINST NORMAN AND HIS AVENGERS...AND WE MIGHT NOT HAVE THOR TO WHIP HIS HAMMER OUT FOR US THE NEXT TIME.
BUT OSBORN CAN'T BE ALLOWED TO KEEP RUNNING THIS SCAM. WE HAVE TO STOP THIS.

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FACE THIS AND IT AIN'T GOING TO BE PRETTY.
BUT I GUESS THAT'S TOMORROW...
TODAY I LEARNED THAT A FULL BODY COSTUME IS REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE WHEN IT'S SOAKING WET.
AND NOW...I AM CHAFING.

THE END.